

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NEA-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-11 H-02 L-03 /103 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2127

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 8/13/76

TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADB TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) FOR UPDATING THE
ASIAN AGRICULTURAL SURVEY (PHASE II)

USADB

FOR NAC AGENCIES

BANGKOK FOR RED

ALSO PASS FARRAR/AA/TAB/AID

REF: MANILA 11666 (1975)

SUMMARY: ADB MANAGEMENT PROPOSES \$460,000 GRANT CHARGED
TO QUOTE SERVICES TO MEMBER COUNTRIES UNQUOTE TO FINANCE
COST OF PHASE II - IMPLEMENTATION OF UPDATING AND REORIENT-
ING OF ADB ASIAN AGRICULTURAL SURVEY (AAS), ALONG THE LINES
OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WHICH
CONVENED IN BANK DECEMBER 1 TO 5, 1975. PRESIDENT RECOMMENDS
THAT TASK FORCE BE RECRUITED TO UPDATE ADB'S 1968-69 SURVEY
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HAVING DUE REGARD FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL

ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.
USADB RECOMMENDS FAVORABLE NAC ACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. ADB DOC.R9-76 WITH ATTACHEMENTS DESCRIBING PROPOSED
GRANT POUCHES ADDRESSEES FEB. 5. BOARD CONSIDERATION
SCHEDULED FEB. 26, 1976.

2. ADB MANAGEMENT PROPOSING \$460,000 GRANT
CHARGED TO QUOTE SERVICES TO MEMBER COUNTRIES UNQUOTE.
PROCEEDS WILL FINANCE COST OF ENGAGING TASK FORCE TO
IMPLEMENT UPDATING AND REORIENTATION OF BANK'S 1968-69
ASIAN AGRICULTURAL SURVEY. PROPOSAL IS ALONG LINES OF
RECOMMENDATIONS BY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
INVITED BY BANK TO ADVISE ON TERMS OF REFERENCE,
APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY.

3. AS REPORTED IN MANILA 13083 (1975), ADB BOARD OF
DIRECTORS APPROVED ON SEPT. 16, 1975, \$32,000 GRANT TO
CONVENE IN MANILA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO
ADVISE ON METHODOLOGY AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF SURVEY
UPDATE. CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDA-
TIONS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO BOARD ON DEC. 17, WITH
COVER MEMO FROM PRESIDENT INDICATING THAT BOARD
MANAGEMENT HAD DIRECTED STAFF REVIEW TO RESPOND TO
SOME ASPECTS OF THE REPORT WHICH MANAGEMENT BELIEVED
REQUIRED CLARIFICATION AND/OR MODIFICATION.

4. ON THE BASIS OF CONCERN EXPRESSED BY VARIOUS BOARD
MEMBERS DURING DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSAL TO
FINANCE THE CONVENING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE,
THE COMMITTEE HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO INCLUDE IN ITS
CONSIDERATION: (A) SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND INSTITUTIONAL
FACTORS AND CONSTRAINTS IN ASIAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOP-
MENT; (B) INTER-SECTORAL LINKS AND INTER-DEPENDENCE
BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND OTHER SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY;
(C) ASSESSMENT OF SUCCESSES AND FAILURES IN AGRI-
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (ESPECIALLY VIS-A-VIS THE QUOTE
GREEN REVOLUTION UNQUOTE) AND MEASURES TO OVERCOME
IDENTIFIED DEFICIENCIES; (D) OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL
IMPLICATIONS FOR ADB WITH CORRESPONDING POLICY
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RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TITLED QUOTE RECOMMENDA-
TIONS FROM THE ADB CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON A STRATEGY
FOR INVESTMENT IN SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA UNQUOTE SUPPORTED PROPOSAL TO
UPDATE SURVEY, NOTING NEED FOR NATIONAL AG DEVELOPMENT
PLANS TO GIVE GREATER PRIORITY TO INCREASING OUTPUT

AND EFFICIENCY OF AG PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION AND TO ADDRESS ALLEVIATION OF RURAL POVERTY. COMMITTEE REPORT STATED THAT MANY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO DATE INCLUDING THOSE TYPICALLY FINANCED BY EXTERNAL AID AGENCIES HAVE FAILED TO EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE HUGE RESERVE OF HUMAN RESOURCES EXISTING IN RURAL POPULATION. REPORT IDENTIFIED WEAKNESSES OF RURAL INSTITUTIONS AND INADEQUATE ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY AS MAJOR CONSTRAINTS TO GOALS OF EXPANDING AG PRODUCTION AND RPROVIDING MORE EQUITABLE SHARING OF GROWTH BENEFITS.

6. REPORT ALSO IDENTIFIED SIX QUOTE SUBSTANTIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICY ISSUES UNQUOTE INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF COMBINING EQUITY AND PRODUCTIVITY OBJECTIVES; WHETHER ADB SHOULD ALLOCATE LARGER PROPORTION ITS RESOURCES TO AG SECTOR; WHETHER COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES TAKE DUE ACCOUNT OF FACTOR OPPORTUNITY COSTS AND RESOURCES ENDOWMENT OF DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES (DMC'S); WHETHER LIMITED ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH CAPACITIES AND INADEQUATE CROP DIVERSIFICATION POLICIES UNDULY RESTRICT APPLICATION OF KNOWN TECHNOLOGIES; WHETHER ADB SHOULD ADOPT DIFFERENT POLICY, I.E. BECOME SPECIALIST LENDER FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF PROJECT; AND WHETHER BANK'S SUPPORTIVE ROLE FOR REGIONAL PROJECTS IS SATISFACTORY.

7. BANK STAFF, HOWEVER, IN BOARD DOCUMENT QUESTION SOME OF THESE PREMISES, ESPECIALLY WHETHER IT IS FEASIBLE FOR ADB TO HAVE A REGIONAL STRATEGY GIVEN DISPARATE CONDITIONS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES. STAFF ALSO BELIEVE QUESTION OF ADB RESOURCES ALLOCATION AND LENDING PROGRAMS ARE INTERNAL MATTERS OF BANK POLICY AND BEYOND PURVIEW OF COMMITTEE. STAFF WAS ALSO OF VIEW THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMITTEE FAILED TO GIVE SUFFICIENT ATTENTION IN ITS REPORT TO INTERSECTORAL LINKAGES.

8. APART FROM THESE DIFFERENCES, ADB STAFF AND MANAGEMENT ENDORSE MAJOR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS RE PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR PROCEEDING WITH SURVEY UPDATE, NAMELY RECRUITMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO IMPLEMENT THE SURVEY. TASK FORCE TO BE COMPRISED OF TWO GROUPS, CORE GROUP AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. CORE GROUP TO SERVE FOR SIX MONTHS AND TO CONSISTS OF TEAM LEADER, DEPUTY, PLUS FOUR EXPERTS HAVING EXPERTISE IN AG POLICY ANALYSIS, AGRARIAN ORGANIZATION AND RURAL INSTITUTIONS (ESPECIALLY LAND TENURE AGENCIES), RURAL DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, RURAL TECHNOLOGY, ECONOMICS AND INTER-SECTORAL

RELATIONS.

9. ASSOICATES, HAVING SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE, E. G. ON FARM WATER MANAGEMENT, CREDIT AND CO-OPS, MARKETING, AG EXTENSION, ETC., TO WORK ON AVERAGE OF 3 MONTHS EACH TO ASSIST IN COUNTRY VISITS AND TO INVESTIGATE CERTAIN KEY PROBLEMS REQUIRING INTENSIVE STUDY.

10. METHODOLOGY WILL BE FOR CORE GROUP, DRAWING UPON DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FROM COUNTRY SOURCES, IBRD, FAO, UNDP, AND ESCAP, TO INITIALLY WORK UP COUNTRY SYNOPSIS OF AG AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN EACH DMC STUDIED. NEXT STEP WOULD BE FIELD VISITS TO PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES BY SUB-TEAMS OF CORE GROUP PLUS ASSOCIATES. VISITS TO INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVT. OFFICIALS, MAINLY TO CONFIRM OR REVISE ASSUMPTIONS OF CORE GROUP ON PROBLEMS AND REMEDIES. THIRD AND FINAL STAGE TO COMBINE FINDINGS OF FIELD VISITS AND PRODUCE FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. TOTAL COST ESTIMATE OF SURVEY (LESS PRINTING) INCLUDING 15 PERCENT CONTINGENCY TOTALS \$460,000 BROKEN DOWN INTO COST OF CORE GROUP (REMUNERATION, PER DIEM, TRAVEL AND MISC.) - \$175,616; ASSOCIATE EXPERTS - \$125,344; AD HOC CONSULTANTS - \$47,220; PROGRESS REVIEWS - \$30,450; SECRETARIAL AND ADMIN COSTS - LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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\$21,950. (BOARD TO DETERMINE LATER RE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING AND COSTS THEREOF.)

12. PRESIDENT ASSERTS SURVEY WOULD BE OF GREAT VALUE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES BY PROVIDING INDEPENDENT EXPERT ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEMS FACED IN AG AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. USADB SUPPORTS PROPOSAL AND RECOMMENDS FAVORABLE NAC ACTION. SULLIVAN

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